

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday July 11th 2004

EI8DV, Silent Key

The death occurred on Sunday last, July the 4th of Benny Bennett EI8DV. Benny was a very active radio amateur in the early eighties and was a regular on the Dublin Repeater.

He was active also on HF and was a regular on 80m SSB particularly into the small hours of the morning!

He will be sadly missed by his wife Joan, son Brian, his sister and three brothers and his many many friends from all walks of life.

Ar dheis De go raibh a ainm.

Bayside Scouts Radio Group Special Event Station

A special event station will be set up by the Group on Saturday the 17th and Sunday the 18th of July next to commemorate the Howth Peninsula Summer Festival. The station will operate from The Martello Tower, Howth Radio Museum between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m daily using the Call sign EI4BST/P.

All community organisations in Howth are staging special activities over the weekend and on Sunday President McAleese is expected to attend the blessing of the Boats Ceremony.

Of special interest is a booklet being produced by the Howth Historical Society on the history of The Sutton Coastguard Station, QTH of the late Joseph Campbell EI4B.

A first hand account of the memories of his son, Brian Campbell, growing up on "an Antenna Farm" and the equipment used in the early days of Amateur Radio and some rare photographs.

The Martello Tower Vintage Radio Museum is now open to the Public, every day including week-ends 11 - 5 p.m. and curator Pat Herbert is always on hand to give Demonstrations and history of the exhibits on view. Admission is 5 Euro, which is being donated to charity. Please support.

Theory Examinations

A reminder that anyone who would like to sit a radio theory examination should contact Derek O'Reilly in ComReg. Contact details are: Mr Derek C.O'Reilly, Volume Licensing & Co Ordination Division, Commission for Communications Regulation, Abbey Court Irish Life Centre, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1. Or phone 01 804 9769, Fax 01 804 9671 or Email derek.oreilly@comreg.ie.

South Dublin Radio Club

At a recent meeting of South Dublin Radio Club, the prizes for the club's annual Spring Challenge were presented. This year, the winners were as follows;

In the Restricted (CW only) section, the winner was Tom Kelly EI2AJ. Tom is a QRP fan, but in view of the poor band conditions this year, he admitted that he increased his power to 30 watts while participating in the Challenge in February.

The Open section winner was club member Mark EI6JK.

The Spring Challenge takes place every year during the month of February, the challenge being to work as much DX as possible during the month.

South Dublin Radio Club members are combining with some of the GEARS club members from County Antrim to operate in the IOTA contest at the end of July. They plan to operate from Inisheer and are looking for CW operators to join the team for the contest. Anyone who might be interested in this is asked to contact Kyle O'Connell by phone to 087-4169845, or by email to mail@kyleoconnell.com.

North American Sporadic E Opening on 88MHz

During a Sporadic E opening on the 19th of June last a path opened to North America which saw the MUF rise to at least the frequencies of the FM broadcast band. An American station was received on the FM broadcast band by Paul, MI3LDO. Also during the event, trans-Atlantic television carriers were received between 55 and 84 MHz. Paul has uploaded an MP3 recording of the audio of the unidentified broadcast station to the Internet and you can hear it at www.geocities.com/yogi540/unid

IRLP

IRLP node number is 5883 on the EI7MLR repeater has been receiving a lot of use since its activation with stations connecting from the UK, USA, Australia and New Zealand to name a few. Please note that as this is operational on a trial basis it will not be available to make connections at all times. However, the node is configured to accept incoming connections at all times.

When using the node, please identify your station by speaking your callsign before sending DTMF tones. Visit the IRLP website at www.irlp.net for more information about the system.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News for next week should be forwarded to Mark EI7IS. News should be submitted via e-mail to news@irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services.

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